

Black Swallowtail Butterfly Project2  
Yahoo/Inbox  
David Drain <[DavidDrain@msn.com](mailto:DavidDrain@msn.com)>  
To: [smithnan88@yahoo.com](mailto:smithnan88@yahoo.com)  
Dec 9 at 4:33 PM  
Dear Nancy,

I am the President of the Lowell Showboat Garden Club. We are partnering with the **Wittenbach Wege Center: Agri-Science and Environmental Education**. The Center will be hosting 315 third graders from January 18th thru the 25th. The school kids will be at the Center from 9:30-12:30. The director is giving the LSGC 1/2 hour at the end of each day to present the MGC power point presentation on the Black Swallowtail Butterfly and talk about the initiative to make the Black Swallowtail the State Butterfly.

The Center's director sees this exercise as valuable in several aspects. First, we will discuss: the life cycle and value of this pollinator, the process of how bills introduced in Lansing become law (particularly relevant because all 3rd graders have or will tour the Capitol), and a writing exercise to their State Senator. Because Senator Meekhof is term limited, I suggest having the children write their respective Senators Brinks or MacGregor. This likely will require some reformatting of a sample letter given to me referencing the current SB. I would be happy to provide a sample letter or talk with the MGC legislative liaison on a suitable alternative.

The Club will be sponsoring a contest using the Black Swallowtail Butterfly coloring sheet. This will be a take home project and handed into the teacher once completed. The 3 winners receive a \$10. gift certificate to Meijer to purchase a host plant for the butterfly. Also, the letter written by the children in support of the Black Swallowtail initiative will be a take home exercise as well.

The 'in class' exercise will be taking the 'cut out' butterfly and to paste it to a paint stirrer thus creating a wand. Additionally, the Black Swallowtail brochure will be handed out to each child to take home and study. That said, I currently have 95 butterfly wand sheets and 130 brochures. I was wondering if I could obtain the balance of each from the MGC (i.e., 220 butterfly wand sheets and 185 brochures) or any number in between. I will make up the rest through our local print shop.

We are very fortunate to have a director of the Center, Courtney Cheers, who so fully supports our work. As a matter of fact, I plan to do 2 sessions and Courtney has committed to do the remaining 4.

I apologize for the lengthy email, but I wanted it to be as informative as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me by email [daviddrain@msn.com](mailto:daviddrain@msn.com) or call 616-581-0375.

Sincerely,  
*David R. Drain*